

# 3

Animal Product  
Manual

## Reference

### *Trophies*

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#### Contents

Introduction	page-3-17-1
Determining If the Trophies Were Treated	page-3-17-2
Handling Nonhuman Primate Trophies	page-3-17-3
Locator	page-3-17-4
Feathers Only	page-3-17-4
Hides	page-3-17-5
Fresh Hides or Skins of Ruminants from Mexico	page-3-17-6
Bones	page-3-17-8
Unfinished Swine Trophies from a Country Affected with ASF	page-3-17-10
Unfinished Swine Trophies from a Country Affected with ASF	page-3-17-10

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#### Introduction

Trophies are animal products imported for the purpose of mounting or preserving. Trophies are usually obtained during hunting expeditions. Ruminant and swine trophies include hides and skins, horns, hoofs, tusks, and other bony tissues. Bird trophies may consist of the entire carcass, the eviscerated carcass, or only the skin and feathers with head and feet attached.

When a trophy is taxidermy finished, it has been professionally prepared, stuffed, and mounted ready for exhibition. Such completely finished trophies are allowed **unrestricted** entry. Look for evidence of professional mounting and proper treatment. When in doubt, regulate the trophy as **not** being taxidermy finished.



Important

Swine hides from regions affected with ASF are allowed **unrestricted** entry **only if** they are fully mounted and ready for display or exhibition.

Consider one to two skulls or horns trophies or souvenirs and regulate them as such. Also regulate the following as trophies:

- ◆ Skulls or horns that have been lacquered or painted
- ◆ Clean, dry cattle skulls free from undried pieces of hide, flesh, and sinew imported for display

This category does **not** cover antlers or bones entering as commercial importations. Consider a large quantity of unfinished antlers or bones as a commercial importation and regulate it as bones rather than trophies. Go to the Reference section entitled *Bones and Related By-Products*.

Bones and antlers are regulated from all countries because of anthrax.

Look for ticks on trophies. Keep in mind that the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior (FWS) may regulate the trophies under wildlife laws. That is, The Endangered Species Act (ESA) and The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

### Determining If the Trophies Were Treated



Before inspecting trophies, try to learn whether the shipment was treated. Use the steps that follow to guide your inspection and protect your health.

1. Check container markings, labels, and accompanying documents to learn if the container or its contents were treated. If the accompanying documents indicate that the trophies were treated, skip to Step 3. If the documents tell you nothing, go to Step 2.
2. If you didn't learn anything from the labels or accompanying documents, carefully examine the container and its contents for pesticide residue. If you detect a chemical odor, suspect that the trophies were treated. If pesticides are suspected, recheck the documentation and labeling to learn what is the pesticide. By knowing what is the pesticide, you can take the most appropriate action if pesticide poisoning occurs. If you're unable to identify the suspected pesticide, hold the material and refuse to inspect until the importer or the importer's agent provides you with this information.
3. Before examining treated shipments, have the importer or the importer's representative open and aerate the containers.
4. Once opened, don't breathe the air around the open container. Work in a well-ventilated area.
5. Have the importer or the importer's representative remove the contents from the shipping container for inspection. If there is pesticide residue, have the importer or importer's representative vacuum the contents and container.
6. If it is necessary for you to touch any of the material, put on latex gloves. To increase your protection, handle the material as little as possible.

7. Once you complete your inspection, appropriately discard the latex gloves. Wash your hands with soap and water.
8. If the shipment showed evidence of having been treated, or the importer volunteers this information, but was not so marked, mark the documents and container. Mark them to alert other people who may have to handle the shipment.

## Handling Nonhuman Primate Trophies



Follow these guidelines when handling and inspecting shipments of restricted animal trophies containing nonhuman primate parts or specimens, as declared in the manifest. **Never** allow shipments of wholly nonhuman primate material to go forward to an approved establishment for processing. On such shipments, **immediately** have Customs notify the Center for Disease Control.

1. Have the broker or the owner's or consignee's representative open and remove the contents from the shipping containers for your inspection. Under no circumstances are PPQ officers to open this type of cargo at the port on their own.

If there is evidence that the shipment contains a mix of trophies (both non-human primate and non-primate) the shipping containers are not opened and presented to PPQ for inspection, the entire shipment must be sent by common carrier to an USDA approved establishment accompanied by a VS Form 16-78. The form should indicate that the shipment had not been inspected.


2. Advise U.S. Customs to inform the Center for Disease Control (CDC) that a shipment has arrived containing nonhuman primate materials. Also, advise the broker that the CDC has authority over the nonhuman primate material in the shipment.
3. Before inspection, put on disposable plastic gloves and a dust mask to prevent exposure to potentially harmful substances and agents.
4. As you inspect, be careful not to tear or puncture the gloves.
5. Upon completion of your inspection, put the mask and gloves in a double plastic bag.
6. Incinerate or autoclave the double plastic bag with the gloves and mask inside.
7. Wash your hands thoroughly with a disinfectant soap.



VS permits are never issued to authorize the entry of trophies.


## Locator

**TABLE 3-17-1: Determine Where to Go to Find the Regulatory Action for Trophies**

If the importation is:	And the trophies are:	Then:
Taxidermy finished, ready for exhibit (explained in the introduction)		RELEASE
<b>Not</b> taxidermy finished	Feathers only	GO to <a href="#">Table 3-17-2</a>
	Hides, capes with or without feathers, skins with or without feathers	GO to <a href="#">Table 3-17-3</a>
	Bones, horns, hoofs, tusks, skulls, teeth, entire carcasses whether eviscerated or not, any other bony tissue with or without hide, flesh, or sinew attached	GO to <a href="#">Table 3-17-7</a>

## Feathers Only

**TABLE 3-17-2: Regulating Feathers Only**



If the feathers are:	And the importation is:	Then:
Free from blood, skin, and manure		RELEASE
Contaminated with blood, skin, or manure	Consigned to an approved establishment	AUTHORIZE shipment under seal with VS 16-7 See Appendix to complete form
	<b>Not</b> consigned to an approved establishment	1. DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD 2. PROVIDE the importer with the appropriate options See <a href="#">Table 2-2-9</a>

## Hides

TABLE 3-17-3: Regulating Hides

If the animal origin is:	And the country of origin is known to be:	And:	Then:
Poultry and game birds	Free from END	→	RELEASE
	Affected with END	→	GO to <a href="#">Table 3-17-4</a>
Ruminants	Free from BSE and FMD	Mexico	See “ <a href="#">Fresh Hides or Skins of Ruminants from Mexico</a> ” on <a href="#">page-3-17-6</a>
		Other than Mexico	GO to <a href="#">Table 3-17-5</a>
	Affected with BSE or FMD	→	REGULATE under <i>Hides and Related By-Products</i>
Swine	Free from FMD and ASF	→	RELEASE
	Free from ASF, but affected with FMD	→	REGULATE under <i>Hides and Related By-Products</i>
	Affected with ASF, regardless the FMD status	→	GO to <a href="#">Table 3-17-12</a>
<b>Other than</b> one of the three classes identified above (you must be able to verify that it is <b>not</b> avian, ruminant, or swine)	→	→	RELEASE

**TABLE 3-17-4: Capes with Feathers and Skins of Poultry and Game Birds (Ostrich Skin) That Are Not Taxidermy Finished from a Country Known to Be Affected with END**

If the article is:	And arriving from:	And is:	Then:
Unfinished (not put through a tanning process)	Mexico at a land border port		GO to <a href="#">Table 3-17-9</a>
	<b>Other than</b> Mexico, or if Mexico, <b>not</b> at a land border port	Consigned to an approved establishment	AUTHORIZE shipment under seal with VS Form 16-78 See <a href="#">Appendix K</a> to complete form
		<b>Not</b> consigned to an approved establishment	1. DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD 2. PROVIDE the importer with the appropriate options See <a href="#">Table 2-2-9</a>
Finished (tanned)			RELEASE

**TABLE 3-17-5: Hides or Skins of Ruminants from Other Than Mexico That Are Not Taxidermy Finished from a Country Known to Be Free from BSE and FMD**

If the hide or skin is:	Then:
Hard dried, such that it is stiff and not easily bent or flexed and the underside is dry and dark	RELEASE
<b>Not</b> hard dried, but soft and easily bent or flexed with the underside being moist, light, and having a gelatinous texture	REGULATE under <i>Hides and Related By-Products</i>

### Fresh Hides or Skins of Ruminants from Mexico

Allow tanned hides unrestricted entry. If deer skins or other hides that are still on the carcass, then REFUSE ENTRY.

Green animal hides from any species and hides and racks that are free from ticks, may be authorized entry if any of the following conditions are met:

- ◆ INSPECT and RELEASE tick free hides and racks that are accompanied by a certificate signed by a veterinary official of the Mexican Government stating that the hides and racks have been found to be free of ticks and have been treated with an acaricide
- ◆ INSPECT and RELEASE tick free hides and racks that lack the certification described in the bulleted item above but were dipped at a Mexican cattle export facility. Such treated hides must be packed in heavy plastic bags

- ◆ If ticks are found, ALLOW entry seven days after the hides were treated with an acaricide. In such cases, reinspect for ticks. See additional options the importer may take in **Table 3-17-6**
- ◆ RELEASE hides that are frozen solid to a non-pliable state (rock-hard) if those hides are accompanied by a written statement signed by the owner that the hides have been frozen for at least 24 hours

Importers may take other options for infested or uncertified hides. See **Table 3-17-6**.








**TABLE 3-17-6: Options Importers May Take for Fresh Hides or Skins of Ruminants from Mexico Infected with Ticks or Lacking Official Certification**

If the importer chooses to:	Then:
Return the hide or skin to Mexico <sup>1</sup>	ENSURE that the hide or skin is returned to Mexico
Have the hide or skin incinerated under PPQ supervision	SUPERVISE the incineration



- 1 Returned articles will **not** be eligible for reentry into the United States until 7 days after they have been treated with an acaricide and found free of ticks on reinspection.

## Bones

**TABLE 3-17-7: Regulating Bones and Other Bony Tissue (Horns, Teeth, Tusks, Etc.)**

if the animal origin is:	And the bones are:	And the country of origin is known to be:	Then:
Poultry and game birds		Free from END	RELEASE
		Affected with END	GO to <a href="#">Table 3-17-8</a>
Ruminant	Clean, dry, and free from blood or tissue		RELEASE
	Not clean and dry or have blood or tissue adhering	Free from BSE and FMD	REGULATE under <i>Bones and Related By-Products</i>
		Affected with FMD only	
		Affected with BSE or BSE in combination with FMD	1. DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD 2. PROVIDE the importer with the appropriate option See <a href="#">Table 2-2-9</a>
Swine		Free from FMD and ASF	RELEASE
		Free from ASF, but affected with FMD	GO to <a href="#">Table 3-17-11</a>
		Affected with ASF, regardless of the disease status concerning FMD	GO to <a href="#">Table 3-17-12</a>
Horse or another animal that does <b>not</b> fit into one of the above classes such as elephant, tiger, or rhinoceros			RELEASE

**TABLE 3-17-8: Entire Poultry and Game Bird Carcasses or Bony Tissue with or without Skin, Flesh, or Sinew of Poultry That Are Not Taxidermy Finished from a Country Known to Be Affected with END**

If the trophy is:	And the country of origin is:	And the port of entry is:	Then:
A game bird	Mexico	A land border port	GO to <a href="#">Table 3-17-9</a>
		Other than a land border port	GO to <a href="#">Table 3-17-10</a>
	A country other than Mexico		
Other than a game bird			




**TABLE 3-17-9: Game Birds from Mexico at a Land Border Port**

If the individual chooses:	Then:
To take the birds to an approved establishment (which may be in another State) using his or her private vehicle	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. COMPLETE a VS Form 16-78 See <a href="#">Appendix K</a> to complete form</li> <li>2. RECORD the driver's license number of the importer and the vehicle license number on the VS Form 16-78</li> <li>3. ALLOW the importer to take the birds to the approved establishment</li> </ol>
To send the birds, by common carrier, to an approved establishment	<p>◆ AUTHORIZE shipment under seal with a VS Form 16-78</p> <p>◆ See <a href="#">Appendix K</a> to complete form</p>
Not to have the birds processed in an approved establishment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD</li> <li>2. PROVIDE the importer with the appropriate options See <a href="#">Table 2-2-9</a></li> </ol>

**TABLE 3-17-10: Poultry and Game Birds Other Than Game Birds from Mexico at a Land Border Port**

If the importation is:	Then:
Consigned to an approved establishment	AUTHORIZE shipment under seal with VS 16-78 See <a href="#">Appendix K</a> to complete form
Not consigned to an approved establishment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD</li> <li>2. PROVIDE the importer with the appropriate options See <a href="#">Table 2-2-9</a></li> </ol>

**TABLE 3-17-11: Bones of Swine That Are Not Taxidermy Finished from a Country Known to Be Affected with FMD**

If the bones are:	And the importation is:	Then:
Clean, dry, and free from undried pieces of cape, flesh, and sinew		RELEASE
Not clean, dry, and free from undried pieces of cape, flesh, or sinew	Consigned to an approved establishment	AUTHORIZE shipment under seal with VS 16-78 See <a href="#">Appendix K</a> to complete form
	Not consigned to an approved establishment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD</li> <li>2. PROVIDE the importer with the appropriate options See <a href="#">Table 2-2-9</a></li> </ol>

## Unfinished Swine Trophies from a Country Affected with ASF

**TABLE 3-17-12: Unfinished Swine Trophies from a Country Affected with ASF**

And the importation is:	Then:
Consigned to an approved establishment	AUTHORIZE shipment under seal with VS 16-78 See <a href="#">Appendix K</a> to complete form
<b>Not</b> consigned to an approved establishment	1. DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD 2. PROVIDE the importer with the appropriate options See <a href="#">Table 2-2-9</a>